

REDUCTION OF VISA FEES FOR NONIMMIGRANTS

*Exchange of notes at Nanking April 9, 1935, with supplementary notes
of April 29 and May 8 and 10, 1935*

Entered into force July 1, 1935

*Superseded April 1, 1956, by agreement of December 20, 1955, and
February 20, 1956¹*

Department of State files

The American Minister to the Acting Minister of Foreign Affairs

LEGATION OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
NANKING OFFICE
April 9, 1935

EXCELLENCY:

I have the honor to confirm in the following terms the tentative agreement reached as a result of discussions between the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and this Legation for reductions in the tariff of passport visa fees charged by the Governments of the Republic of China and of the United States:

1. The Government of the United States will from July 1, 1935, collect the following specified fees for visaeing travel documents (but will collect no fee for the execution of an application for a visa) of nationals of China proceeding to the United States (including the insular possessions) who fall within the following categories:

(1) A government official, his family, attendants, servants, and employees; no fee.

(2) An alien visiting the United States temporarily as a tourist or temporarily for business or pleasure: \$2.50.

(3) An alien in continuous transit through the United States; no fee.

(4) An alien lawfully admitted to the United States who later goes in transit from one part of the United States to another through foreign contiguous territory; no fee.

¹ 7 UST 585; TIAS 3539.

(5) A bona fide alien seaman serving as such on a vessel arriving at a port of the United States and seeking to enter temporarily the United States solely in the pursuit of his calling as a seaman (the payment of \$2 is collected for the visa of a crew list covering all the members of the crew. No separate visa is required for each member of the crew); \$2.

(6) An alien entitled to enter the United States solely to carry on trade between the United States and the foreign state of which he is a national under and in pursuance of the provisions of a treaty of commerce and navigation, and his wife, and his unmarried children under 21 years of age, if accompanying or following to join him. (The wife and unmarried minor children who are accompanying the husband or father are covered by his visa; those who are following to join him must be covered by a separate visa); \$2.50.

2. The Government of China reciprocally will from July 1, 1935, collect fees in the following manner for visaeing the passports of nationals of the United States of corresponding categories as described above, who are proceeding to China including possessions:

- (1) For persons in category (1); no fee.
- (2) For persons in category (2); \$8 Chinese National Currency.
- (3) For persons in category (3); no fee.
- (4) For persons in category (4); no fee.
- (5) For crew lists in category (5); \$6.50 Chinese National Currency.
- (6) For persons in category (6); \$8 Chinese National Currency.

The above fees will be collected in Chinese National Currency or in the currency of the country where the visas are granted at the current rate of exchange.

3. The Government of China further agrees, in consideration of the privileges accorded Chinese residents of the United States to reenter the United States without visas for temporary visits to countries adjacent to the United States, that it will collect a fee of eight dollars Chinese National Currency, either in Chinese National Currency or in the currency of the country where the visas are granted, at the current rate of exchange, for visaeing the passports of nationals of the United States residing in China to reenter China from visits of not more than six months to countries adjacent to China, the visas issued in accordance with the provisions of this paragraph to be valid as specified in Article 4 for a period of twelve months and for any number of entries within that period.

4. The period of validity of a passport visa falling within any of the categories mentioned in Articles 1 and 2 (except in the case of a transit visa and a crew list visa which are valid for the particular journey involved) shall be 12 months from the date of the issuance of the visa and shall be valid for any number of visits during the validity of the visa provided the travel docu-

ment continues to be valid for this period. In the event the travel document expires sooner than 12 months from the date of issuance of the visa, the validity of the visa expires on the date of the expiration of such travel document.

5. Only one fee shall be charged for each passport visa falling within the terms of this agreement, provided that the travel document continues to be valid for the period of the visa and each visa shall cover the persons who may properly be included in the travel document and whose photographs are attached thereto.

6. The present agreement shall come into effect on July 1, 1935, and, unless sooner terminated by mutual agreement, shall continue in force until 90 days after notice through diplomatic channels of its termination shall have been given by either party.

I shall be glad to have your confirmation of the accord thus reached.

I avail myself of this opportunity to extend to Your Excellency the renewed assurance of my highest consideration.

For the American Minister:

WILLYS R. PECK
Counselor of Legation

His Excellency

Mr. WANG CHAO-MING,
*Acting Minister for Foreign Affairs,
Nanking.*

The Minister of Foreign Affairs to the American Minister

WAICHIAOPU
NANKING
April 9, 1935

EXCELLENCY:

In reply to your note of today's date I have the honor to inform you that the National Government agrees with the American Government on the plan with respect to visas for passports set forth in your note under acknowledgment, as follows:

[For text of U.S. note, see above.]

I avail myself of this opportunity to extend to Your Excellency the renewed assurance of my highest consideration.

WANGCHINGWEI

His Excellency

Mr. NELSON T. JOHNSON,
*American Minister,
Nanking.*

*The Second Secretary of the American Legation to the Political
Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs*

LEGATION OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
NANKING OFFICE
April 29, 1935

MY DEAR MR. VICE MINISTER:

Let me refer to the recent agreement for reductions in the tariff of passport visa fees charged by the Government of the United States and the Government of China, which was embodied in an exchange of Notes between the American Legation and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs dated April 9, 1935, and particularly to Article 3 of the agreement which reads as follows:

3. The Government of China further agrees, in consideration of the privileges accorded Chinese residents of the United States to reenter the United States without visas from temporary visits to countries adjacent to the United States, that it will collect a fee of eight dollars Chinese National Currency, either in Chinese National Currency or in the currency of the country where the visas are granted, at the current rate of exchange, for visaing the passports of nationals of the United States residing in China to reenter China from visits of not more than six months to countries adjacent to China, the visas issued in accordance with the provisions of this paragraph to be valid as specified in Article 4 for a period of twelve months and for any number of entries within that period.

The American Legation at Peiping has received a telegraphic instruction from the Department of State at Washington, dated April 26, 1935, which states that under new regulations now being issued the following are the countries from which alien residents may return to the United States after temporary visits not exceeding six months and be readmitted into the United States without passports or visas:

Canada
Newfoundland
St. Pierre
Miquelon
Mexico

Cuba
Haiti
Dominican Republic
Panama and the British, French, and Netherlands possessions in the West Indies.²

I am pleased to communicate to you, for the information of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, this list of countries which the Department of State considers to be "adjacent to the United States" and, under instructions of the Legation, respectfully request that you kindly furnish me a list, for com-

² See also U.S. note dated May 8, 1935, p. 733.

munication to the Legation, of the countries which are considered by the Ministry to be "adjacent to China".

I am, my dear Mr. Vice Minister,
Very sincerely yours,

GEORGE ATCHESON, JR.,
Second Secretary of Legation.

Dr. Hsu Mo,
*Political Vice Minister for Foreign Affairs,
Ministry of Foreign Affairs,
Nanking.*

*The Director, Department of International Affairs of the Ministry for
Foreign Affairs, to the Second Secretary of the American Legation*

NANKING
May 8, 1935

DEAR MR. ATCHESON,

Referring to your letter dated April 29, 1935, addressed to Vice Minister Dr. Hsu Mo, I am directed to inform you that the following countries are considered by the Ministry to be "adjacent to China":

Hongkong
French Indo-China
Burma

Japan (including Korea and Formosa)
Eastern Siberia.

Yours sincerely,

LOUIS NGAOSIANG TCHOU
*Director
Department of International Affairs*

Mr. GEORGE ATCHESON, JR.,
*Second Secretary,
American Legation.*

*The Second Secretary of the American Legation to the Political Vice Minister
of Foreign Affairs*

LEGATION OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
Nanking, May 10, 1935

MY DEAR MR. VICE MINISTER:

With reference to my letter of April 29, 1935, communicating to you a list of the countries which the Department of State considers to be "adjacent to the United States" in connection with the application of Article 3 of the visa

fee agreement of April 9, 1935, I write to inform you that the Legation has received a telegram from the Department, dated May 9, stating that Bermuda should be added to the countries named.

I am, my dear Mr. Vice Minister,

Very sincerely yours,

GEORGE ATCHESON, JR.

Dr. Hsu Mo,

Political Vice Minister for Foreign Affairs,

Ministry of Foreign Affairs,

Nanking.